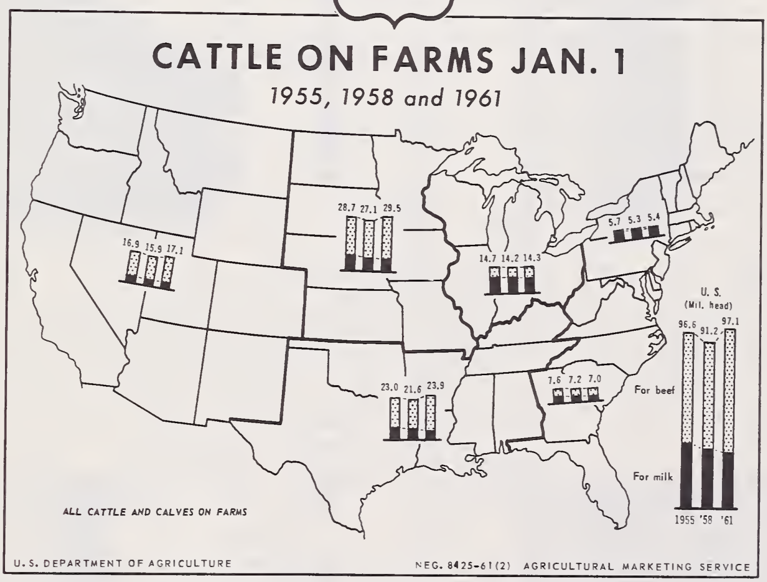
March 1961
FOR RELEASE
MAR. 8, P. M.

The LIVESTOCK and MEAT SITUATION

In this issue:
Rank of States in Livestock, 1961

LMS-115

AMS



U. S. cattle numbers were at a cyclical peak in 1955. Numbers then declined for 3 years but have since risen to a new high. Increases in cattle and calves kept for beef more than offset declines in those for milk.

January 1 inventories in the North and South Atlantic and East North Central Regions are still below 1955 levels. The largest gain in numbers since 1958 has been in the West North Central and South Central States. Beef cattle herds in these regions have increased 15 and 19 percent respectively during the past 3 years.

Growth Through Agricultural Progress

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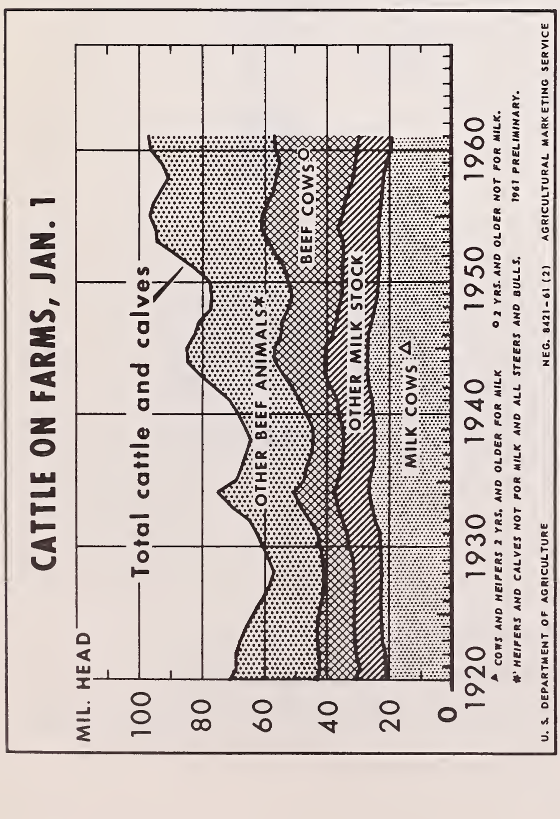
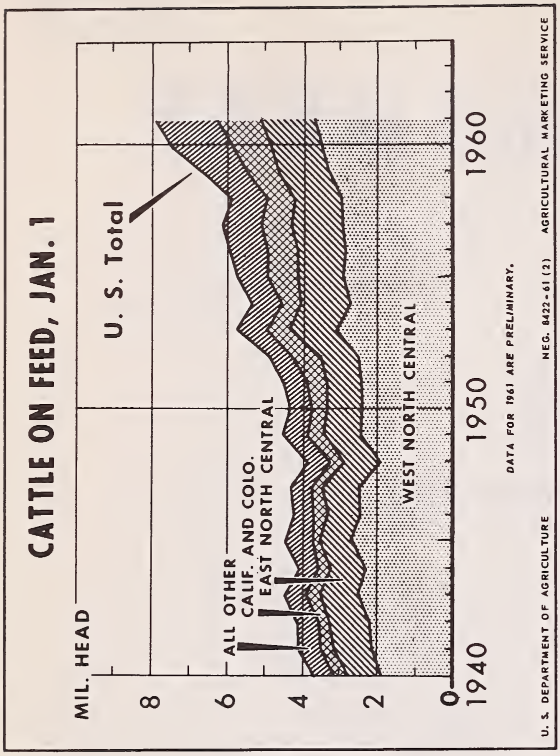
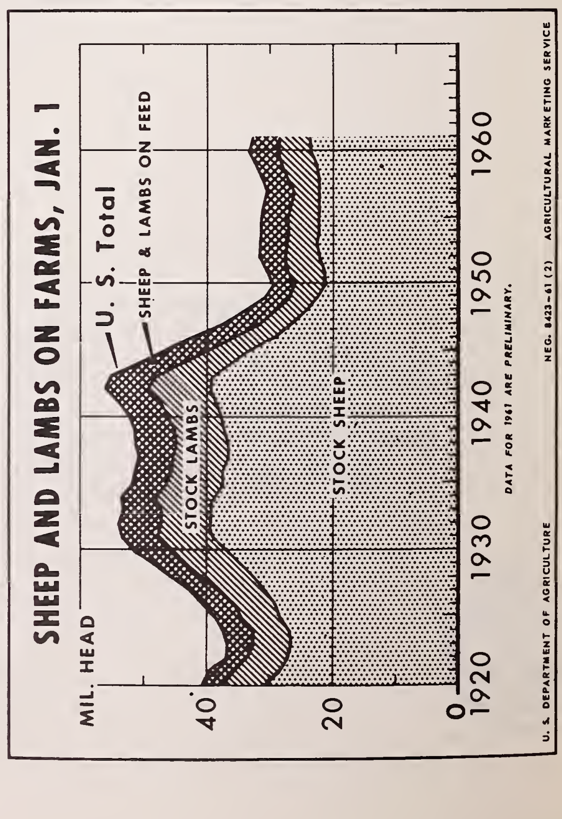
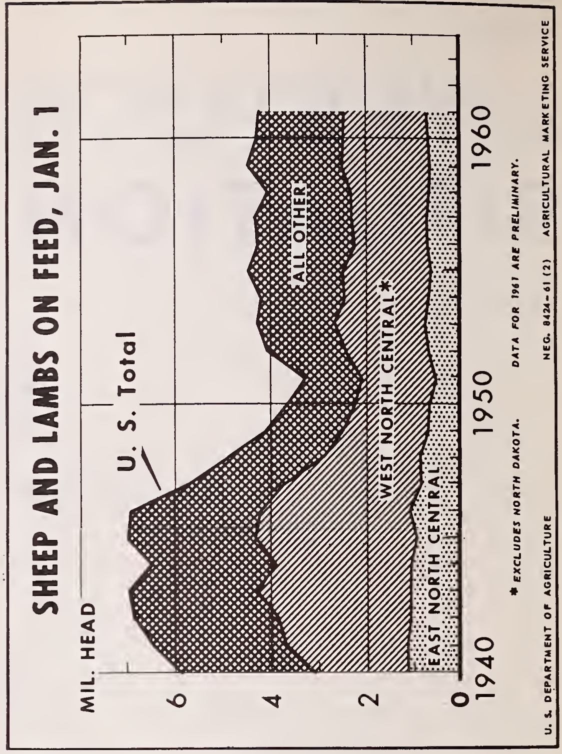

CATTLE ON FARMS, JAN. 1
MIL. HEAD
100
80
60
40
20
0
Total cattle and calves
OTHER BEEF ANIMALS*
BEEF COWS○
OTHER MILK STOCK
MILK COWS△
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
△ COWS AND HEIFERS 2 YRS. AND OLDER FOR MILK
○ 2 YRS. AND OLDER NOT FOR MILK.
*: HEIFERS AND CALVES NOT FOR MILK AND ALL STEERS AND BULLS.
1961 PRELIMINARY.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8421-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


CATTLE ON FEED, JAN. 1
MIL. HEAD
8
6
4
2
0
U. S. Total
ALL OTHER
CALIF. AND COLO.
EAST NORTH CENTRAL
WEST NORTH CENTRAL
1940
1950
1960
DATA FOR 1961 ARE PRELIMINARY.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8422-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


SHEEP AND LAMBS ON FARMS, JAN. 1
MIL. HEAD
40
20
0
U. S. Total
SHEEP & LAMBS ON FEED
STOCK LAMBS
STOCK SHEEP
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
DATA FOR 1961 ARE PRELIMINARY.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8423-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


SHEEP AND LAMBS ON FEED, JAN. 1
MIL. HEAD
6
4
2
0
U. S. Total
ALL OTHER
WEST NORTH CENTRAL*
EAST NORTH CENTRAL
1940
1950
1960
* EXCLUDES NORTH DAKOTA.
DATA FOR 1961 ARE PRELIMINARY.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8424-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, March 1, 1961

CONTENTS

SUMMARY

Increases in the cattle inventory during 1960 plus the expected uptrend in hog production will result in a moderately larger meat output in 1961 than a year earlier. The number of cattle and calves on farms January 1 totaled 97.1 million head, up 1 percent from a year before. The number of sheep and lambs on hand was 1 percent smaller this January. The number of sows on farms was up, about in line with the December intentions of 4 percent more sows to farrow spring pigs. The larger inventories are expected to result in moderately increased marketings during 1961 and livestock prices will probably average nearly as high as in 1960.

Revised estimates for 1955-60 lowered the general level of the U. S. cattle inventory and placed the 1960 total about equal to the previous high mark of 1955. An increase of 900,000 head during 1960 lifted cattle numbers to a record high on January 1, 1961. The increase this January was in beef cattle. Beef cows increased 640,000 and milk cows decreased 236,000 resulting in a gain of 404,000 head in all cows.

Despite the downward revision in inventories, the cattle herd in 1960 was large enough to provide for a record output of beef plus an increase in inventories. Some further increases in slaughter are in prospect for 1961, although the gain will probably not be large enough to halt herd expansion. Overexpansion is still a real possibility if the build-up in herds is accelerated by overly optimistic reactions by producers to the revision in numbers.

The number of cattle and calves on feed January 1 was 6 percent above a year earlier. Cattle slaughter during the next few months will feature a gain in fed cattle. Supplies of nonfed cattle also are as large as or larger than, a year ago. Fed cattle prices are expected to hold close to present levels for some months in contrast to late-winter price increases last year.

The number of hogs on farms this January was 6 percent smaller than in January 1960, with gains in sows more than offset by reductions in other hogs over 6 months old, and in pigs under 6 months of age. Hence, hog slaughter will likely continue below a year earlier until late this spring. Prices of hogs in February were about $4.50 per 100 pounds above a year ago, and will likely continue above until about midyear. The seasonally high summertime prices will likely average close to a year earlier but prices this fall will be below those in late 1960.

The number of stock sheep and lambs on farms and ranches January 1 was 172,000 below January 1960; the number on feed 66,000 smaller. However, the 1961 lamb crop will probably be as large or larger than in 1960 since the number of ewes 1 year old and older was up 1 percent from a year earlier. Sheep and lamb prices have not shown much recovery from their early-winter low, as slaughter has been nearly as large as a year ago. Prices are expected to rise seasonally this spring and may average about the same as last spring.

Total red meat production for 1961 is forecast at 28.7 billion pounds, slightly more than in 1960. As meat imports will probably not be as large as last year, and because population is increasing, supplies per person may be a pound or more less than the 161.7 pounds consumed in 1960. The reduction in supplies per person will be in pork and will occur chiefly during the first half of the year.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Cattle Numbers Up; Hogs, Sheep Down

The inventory of cattle on farms and ranches on January 1, 1961 was larger than a year before, but numbers of sheep and hogs on hand were smaller. The index of meat animal numbers on farms this January at 115 (1947-49=100) was the same as in 1960 but 4 points below the record high index set January 1, 1944. The index for milk cattle and for poultry each declined from a year before (table 1).

> The January 1 estimates in table 1 have been revised for 1955-60 on the basis of data from the Census of Agriculture taken in the fall of 1959 and other data which have become available since the original estimates were made. Revisions by States are shown in Statistical Bulletin No. 278, February 1961. Calf, lamb and pig crops, and wool and mohair production were also revised in separate releases. Single copies of these revisions may be obtained from the Marketing Information Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Table 1.--Number of livestock on farms and ranches January 1, United States, 1955 to date

Year	Number on farms January 1					Index numbers, by groups (1947-49=100)			
	All cattle and calves	All sheep and lambs	Hogs	Horses and mules	Chickens	Total livestock and poultry	Meat animals	Milk cattle	Poultry
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head				
1955	96,592	31,582	50,474	4,309	390,708	110	114	96	88
1956	95,900	31,157	55,354	3,958	383,690	111	115	93	86
1957	92,860	30,654	51,897	3,632	391,363	107	110	91	89
1958	91,176	31,217	51,517	3,415	374,281	105	109	87	85
1959	93,322	32,606	58,045	3,189	387,002	109	113	83	89
1960	96,236	33,170	59,026	3,089	369,484	111	115	81	84
1961 1/	97,139	32,932	55,305	2/	357,910	111	115	80	83

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Numbers have declined to the point that beginning 1961 the estimates are discontinued.

Table .--Number of cattle and calves on farms and ranches January 1, by classes, United States, 1955 to date

Year	For milk				Not for milk					
	Cows and heifers, 2 years and over	Heifers, 1 to 2 years old	Heifer calves	Total	Cows and heifers, 2 years and over	Heifers, 1 to 2 years old	Calves	Steers, 1 year old and over	Bulls, 1 year old and over	Total
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1955	23,462	5,786	6,094	35,342	25,659	6,514	18,804	8,444	1,829	61,250
1956	22,912	5,407	5,890	34,209	25,371	6,206	18,869	9,483	1,762	61,691
1957	22,325	5,267	5,699	33,291	24,534	5,926	18,405	8,991	1,713	59,569
1958	21,265	5,126	5,571	31,962	24,165	5,903	18,275	9,252	1,619	59,214
1959	20,132	5,050	5,526	30,708	25,112	6,557	19,407	9,931	1,607	62,614
1960	19,527	5,079	5,575	30,181	26,344	7,036	20,425	10,574	1,676	66,055
1961 1/	19,291	5,034	5,611	29,936	26,984	7,018	20,556	10,948	1,697	67,203

1/ Preliminary.

Favorable price prospects, larger beginning inventories of breeding animals and ample feed supplies set the stage for probable small increases in meat animal production this year. The index of prices received by farmers for meat animals in February was 309 (1910-14=100), 8 percent above a year earlier. Cow, sow and ewe numbers were each larger this January than last. Feed grain prices in February were slightly lower than a year ago but high-protein feed was a little higher. The total supply of feed grains and other concentrates for the 1960-61 feeding season is estimated at 273 million tons, a record high. Hay stocks on January 1 were 6 percent larger than a year earlier.

Cattle Inventory A New High

The inventory of cattle and calves on farms January 1, 1961 reached a record 97.1 million head. This was 900,000 more than the number on hand in January 1960 and 6 million above January 1958 when the current expansion in numbers got underway. During 1960 the 1 percent decline in the number of cattle kept for milk was more than offset by a gain in beef cattle--cows, heifers and calves not kept for milk plus steers and bulls (table 2 and inside cover chart).

The number of cows increased 404,000 head or 1 percent this past year. Milk cows decreased in number for the seventh consecutive year and are now 15 percent below the 1950-59 average. Beef cow numbers are record large but the cow total is still below January inventories in 1953 to 1957.

The number of steers was 4 percent larger this January than last, the largest percentage gain for any inventory class. Heifer and calf numbers made relatively small changes.

Changes in cattle numbers from a year earlier were modest for most States, although the extremes were a 6 percent decrease in Nevada and a 9 percent increase in North Dakota. Major increases in numbers were in the tier of States from North Dakota to Texas, an area where 1960 pasture conditions were above average. Six of the western States reduced inventories during 1960 to lower numbers by 1 percent. All other regions had as many or more cattle this January than last.

The proportion of cows in the January inventory was 47.6 percent of all cattle and calves, nearly the same as last year. Although cow slaughter under Federal inspection in 1960 was up 16 percent from 1959, it made up only 22.9 percent of total cattle slaughter and permitted further gains in the number of cows on hand (table 3). Steer slaughter was at a record rate last year but inventory also rose. More calves were slaughtered in 1960 but more of the beginning inventory of calves was carried over as steers this January. While these classes are not identical, calf slaughter (FI) in 1960 was up 8 percent, the January 1, 1960, inventory was up 4 percent from a year earlier, and there were 1 percent more calves born during the year.

Table 3.--Number of cattle and calves slaughtered under Federal inspection by class, United States, by months, January 1960 to date

Month	Steers		Heifers		Cows		Calves	
	1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
January	868	871	370	329	372	347	427	413
February		806		310		306		389
March		908		325		325		482
April		796		294		301		394
May		943		310		328		378
June		941		345		376		397
July		879		322		364		374
August		995		365		400		450
September		960		387		408		514
October		882		395		445		516
November		790		372		442		502
December		786		372		399		451
Total 1/		10,557		4,124		4,441		5,259

1/ Computed from unrounded totals.

These changes in numbers and slaughter by classes in 1960 were about what could be expected during a period of slowly expanding production. Two conditions in the current cycle that make it different from previous ones arise largely from (1) the increasing proportion of our cattle herd kept for beef and (2) the increase in fattening of cattle on grain and other concentrate feeds. The number of cattle and calves on feed January 1 was 6 percent above a year earlier and the third increase in a row. The number on feed in 26 States, for which quarterly estimates have been available since October 1, 1959, show a consistent uptrend in feeding (table 4).

1960 Calf Crop Larger

The 1960 calf crop totaled 39,280,000 head, 1 percent more than the 1959 crop. The increase was primarily the result of a larger number of cows and heifers on farms. The number of calves born was equal to 86 percent of cows and heifers 2 years old and older January 1, 1960, the same percentage as in 1959. Calf crops in all regions except the South Atlantic were larger in 1960 than in 1959.

Revisions in the calf crop, based primarily on revised inventories of cows and heifers 2 years old and older, reduced the calf crop for 1960 about 6 percent from the previous estimate. The size of the calf crop declined from the peak of 42,601,000 in 1954 to 38,860,000 in 1958, but increased during 1959 and 1960. (See box, page 3 for directions in ordering revised estimates by States).

1955-60 Revisions Lower Estimates of Number on Hand

Revised estimates of January 1 inventories for the years 1955-60 place cattle numbers at a lower level. The revisions reflect changes made over a 5-year period. Following are percentages in downward revisions from preliminary January 1, 1960, estimates: All cattle 5, milk cows 8, milk heifers 7, milk heifer calves 10, beef cows 3, beef heifers 5, calves 3, steers 4, and bulls 4. The revision also placed 1955 as the peak year in numbers during the previous cycle. Numbers then declined for 3 years before turning upward during 1958. Hence, cattle numbers have now increased for 3 years and are 6 million head or $6\frac{1}{2}$ percent above January 1958. Regional totals in cattle and calf numbers are shown on the cover chart and in table 5 for 1955, 1958 and 1961.

Despite the downward revision in inventories, the cattle herd in 1960 was large enough to provide for a record output of beef plus an increase in inventories. The gain in numbers, however, was not nearly as big as it would have been had herds been as large as previously estimated. Therefore, the danger of large increases in slaughter from inventories when the cattle cycle turns downward is also greatly reduced, and the productive capacity of the cattle herd is appreciably less than originally estimated. With a lower level of cow numbers, January 1960 inventories contained 2 million fewer calves and heifers than originally estimated. This reduction greatly limits the expansion attainable in breeding stock during 1961 unless slaughter is correspondingly reduced. The 104,000 head gain in heifer and calf inventories this January over a year earlier just about matches the increase in the number of heifers and heifer calves on feed. Hence, it appears likely that the increase in cow numbers during 1961 will be about the same as last year.

It seems likely that the revision in numbers may encourage producers to extend the expansion phase of the current cycle for several years -- probably longer than they would have maintained expansion at the originally estimated level. But the sum of further increases will likely be moderate. However, overexpansion is still a real possibility if the buildup in numbers is accelerated or prolonged. The $6\frac{1}{2}$ percent gain in cattle numbers since January 1958 has been only slightly larger than the rate of increase in civilian population. Even with increasing productivity per head, the current cattle herd is not unusually large relative to population. And unless the rate of herd expansion is stepped up, most of the probable increase in supply of beef per person during the current cycle has already taken place. Beef consumption per person will probably stay above average for several years, but a series of successive new highs is not likely.

Table 4 .--Number of cattle and calves, and sheep and lambs on feed January 1, by regions, 1955 to date

Cattle and calves

Year	Pennsylvania	North Central States: East North Central	North Central States: West North Central: 3 Corn Belt 1/	North Central States: West North Central: 4 Plains 2/	Texas and Oklahoma	Western States: California	Western States: Other Western	26 States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1955	84	1,267	1,780	1,142	200	467	846	5,786
1956	82	1,364	1,806	1,046	214	489	879	5,880
1957	90	1,413	1,911	1,051	218	496	888	6,067
1958	78	1,337	1,943	1,087	163	398	861	5,867
1959	77	1,311	2,117	1,249	237	504	1,132	6,627
1960	83	1,340	2,196	1,312	317	665	1,260	3/7,173
1961 4/	89	1,380	2,292	1,469	324	712	1,317	3/7,583

Sheep and lambs

Year	New York	Alabama	11 Corn Belt States 5/: East	11 Corn Belt States 5/: West	Western States 6/	United States
1955	20	---	601	1,853	1,971	4,445
1956	20	42	641	1,562	2,002	4,267
1957	20	23	654	1,687	1,922	4,306
1958	21	6	619	1,732	1,672	4,050
1959	23	---	614	1,940	1,921	4,498
1960	23	---	617	1,835	1,846	4,321
1961 4/	25	---	622	1,808	1,800	4,255

1/ Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri.

2/ North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas.

3/ 11 South Atlantic and South Central States report an additional 362,000 head on feed in 1960 and 367,000 head in 1961.

4/ Preliminary.

5/ North Central States, except North Dakota.

6/ 8 Mountain States, 3 Pacific States, Texas, Oklahoma, and North Dakota.

Table 5.--Cattle on farms January 1, by regions, 1955, 1958 and 1961

Year and Item	North Atlantic	North Central: East	North Central: West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1955							
For beef	600	5,666	20,609	4,529	16,447	13,399	61,250
For milk	5,094	9,073	8,081	3,051	6,539	3,504	35,342
Total	5,694	14,739	28,690	7,580	22,986	16,903	96,592
1958							
For beef	566	5,921	19,756	4,450	15,950	12,571	59,214
For milk	4,713	8,232	7,353	2,718	5,626	3,320	31,962
Total	5,279	14,153	27,109	7,168	21,576	15,891	91,176
1961							
For beef	657	6,490	22,754	4,417	19,036	13,849	67,203
For milk	4,700	7,783	6,750	2,566	4,854	3,283	29,936
Total	5,357	14,273	29,504	6,983	23,890	17,132	97,139

Stable Cattle Prices In Prospect

The makeup of the January inventory indicates that, barring drought or other conditions that would lead to heavy marketings, cattle slaughter will increase moderately in 1961 over 1960, with much of the gain in fed cattle. If slaughter in 1961 is in the range of $26\frac{1}{2}$ - 27 million head, prices for cattle probably throughout the year will not average greatly different from 1960. The monthly average price last year ranged from \$19.10 to \$21.80 per 100 pounds and averaged about \$20.50 for the year.

Prices of fed cattle have edged lower this winter. Declines have been rather general by grades with little tendency for the spread between grades to narrow. Choice steer prices At Chicago late in February were \$26.05, about a dollar below last February (table 6).

Table 6.--Selected prices per 100 pounds of livestock, by months, 1960 and 1961

Month	Choice slaughter steers at Chicago 1/		Stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City 2/		Barrows and gilts at 8 markets 3/		Choice lambs at Chicago 4/	
	1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960	1961	1960
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
January	27.42	26.42	24.29	23.31	17.33	12.65	17.20	19.90
February	5/26.19	26.69	5/23.65	23.80	5/18.19	13.56	17.62	21.05
March		28.08		25.14		15.55		22.34
April		27.76		26.46		15.96		21.85
May		27.43		25.38		16.03		20.55
June		26.04		23.50		16.88		22.81
July		25.64		21.81		17.74		20.90
August		25.07		21.33		16.91		19.42
September		24.80		20.91		16.59		18.90
October		24.94		21.59		17.30		18.33
November		26.08		22.54		17.36		17.46
December		26.86		23.61		17.27		17.26
Average		26.24		22.93		15.96		20.06

1/ Sold out of first hands.
2/ All weights.
3/ Average for all weights Midwest markets.
4/ Spring lambs June-September, wooled lambs all other months except May which is shorn.
5/ Three-week average.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Division.

The pattern of fed cattle prices is expected to trace a somewhat different course this year than last. Last year prices rose steadily during the winter, declined slowly during the spring and summer, and rose again in the fall. It currently appears that fed cattle prices will hold relatively stable for some weeks. Prices will probably hold up better this spring, and around midyear may be close to a year earlier. Price trends during the last half of the year will depend largely on market receipts at that time, but there is a good chance that summer prices will average above, and fall prices below, a year earlier.

Stocker and feeder cattle prices are currently close to those of a year ago. Feeder calves are priced a little below last year. The average price to farmers for all calves in February was $23.90 per 100 pounds, $.80 below February 1960. A seasonal price rise is likely for these cattle and for cows

this spring with the beginning of new pasture growth. Demand will likely be large enough to utilize cattle moving off wheat pastures without undue price changes. Most of the cattle will have been taken off wheat pasture by the first of April.

Hog Numbers Lower

The number of hogs on farms January 1 was down 6 percent from January 1960. The reduction centered on hogs being raised for market during the early months of 1961 and follows a 17 percent reduction in the 1960 spring pig crop. The number of pigs under 6 months of age was down 2 percent. In contrast, the number of sows and gilts 6 months old or older was up 4 percent, in line with hog breeders' intentions to increase 1961 spring farrowings.

The inventory indicates that, until marketings of spring pigs begin this summer, hog slaughter in 1961 will be smaller than it was last year. Slaughter in federally inspected plants in January was down 12 percent from a year before. The reductions in the next few months may not be as great but pork output will continue below last year. Marketings this spring and early summer will be closer to last year because the late fall crop was about as large as a year earlier. When hogs from the spring pig crop come to market in volume hog slaughter will rise above a year earlier.

Hog prices are now well above last year's prices and will continue at a higher level until about midyear. This summer they may average close to last summer. During the fall price decline, which this year is not expected to be large, prices are expected to drop below last fall.

Governmental purchases of lard and canned pork will lend some price strength to hogs. At the same time, the proposed price support program for feed grains would raise the support level for producers in compliance. It is too early to appraise the probable outcome of these actions; it now appears likely they would be largely offsetting this year. Hence, the uptrend in hog production will probably be continued this fall and possibly for the 1962 spring crop.

Sheep Numbers Down Slightly

The number of sheep and lambs on farms declined during 1960 after having increased slowly for 3 years. The 32.9 million head reported this January was down about 238,000 head, 1 percent below January 1960.

Stock sheep and lambs accounted for about half the reduction in numbers and sheep and lambs on feed the other half. Ewes 1 year old and older were up 1 percent.

Sheep numbers increased slightly in the 13 Western sheep States (11 Western States plus Texas and South Dakota) to the highest level since 1948, due primarily to the 4 percent gain in Texas. Numbers in that State increased for the fourth consecutive year. In the 35 Native States, numbers decreased 3 percent from January 1, 1960.

Changes in sheep numbers during 1960 may be ascribed to 2 major factors: Drought in an area centered in the intermountain region and lower prices for lambs. Prices for wool have been supported by incentive payments for the last 6 years. The national incentive level has been 62 cents per pound, grease basis, each year.

1960 Lamb Crop Up 1 Percent

The 1960 lamb crop totaled 21,323,000 head, up 1 percent from 1959 and the largest since 1947. The larger lamb crop resulted from the 3 percent increase in the number of ewes on hand, since the number of lambs saved per 100 ewes was smaller in 1960 than in 1959.

The level of sheep production was changed slightly by the revisions for 1955-60. Stock sheep inventories were lowered only 2 percent from the preliminary 1960 estimates. Lamb crops were revised in line with the smaller number of ewes. (See box, page 3.)

Sheep Slaughter Above, Lamb Prices Below A Year Ago

Sheep and lamb slaughter in January was about 6 percent above a year earlier. Lamb prices in January and early February showed little recovery from late 1960 lows. In December the average price to producers for lambs was $16.00 per 100 pounds. In January it was $16.50 and in February $16.80. Market prices by the end of February were generally close to those at the beginning of the year. Direct market price comparisons with a year earlier are not possible because of the change last March in Federal grades for lambs.

The number of sheep and lambs on feed for market was down 2 percent from January 1960. Assuming that about the same proportion of the January 1 lamb inventory not on feed will be marketed this spring and winter as last, and considering the decline in the numbers on feed, it appears likely that during the next few months sheep and lamb slaughter will be below a year earlier. The uptrend in lamb prices will probably continue for several weeks and may lift lamb prices up to year-earlier prices sometime this spring.

The prospective lower rate of slaughter during the first half of 1961 may be offset by heavier marketings in the last half of the year if the 1961 lamb crop increases. The number of breeding ewes was up slightly, and weather conditions thus far this year have generally been more favorable for lambing than they were last winter.

If flock numbers do not change much during 1961, which now seems likely, sheep and lamb marketings this year will probably not be greatly different from last year. For the year as a whole, prices will probably average about as high as those in 1960.

Meat Consumption To Continue At High Level

Meat production was a record 28.3 billion pounds in 1960 as beef output also set a new high. Meat consumption per person for 1960 is currently estimated at 161.7 pounds, 1.6 pounds more than in 1959. Total meat output will probably set a new high this year; but due largely to population growth, supplies per person may be down a little from last year. The decline in consumption per person will center in pork, following smaller pig crops last year and will occur during the first half of the year.

The outlook for beef and veal was modified considerably by the downward revision in the cattle and calf inventory. It was previously thought likely that a sizable gain in calf and grass cattle slaughter during the last half of the year would push output appreciably above a year earlier. The present outlook is for beef output in 1961 to show only a modest gain over 1960, with production at times close to year-earlier rates. A high proportion will again be in fed beef.

Calf slaughter and veal production will probably increase less than population growth.

Somewhat less pork was available last year than in 1959. Production was down, with the decline concentrated in the second half of the year. Pork production in 1961 will total nearly as large this year as last, but comparisons with a year earlier will likely be reversed--below 1960 levels in the first half, above in the last half. Civilian consumption of pork is expected to be about $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds under last year's 66 pounds per person.

Supplies of lamb and mutton per person will probably be down slightly.

Imports of meat for domestic consumption through most of 1961 will probably continue a little smaller than last year. Availability of domestic supplies and strong world demand for meat will likely mean that the U. S. will not be an especially attractive market for exporters of beef. Pork imports are expected to be down somewhat because pork production in Canada, our principal foreign supplier, is cyclically low. There has been a moderate recovery in hog production in Canada and the spring pig crop is expected to be up 16 percent from 1960. This will increase supplies available in Canada in the second half of 1961 but shipments to the United States will probably not increase much. Imports of lamb were about 25 percent higher in 1960 than those in 1959. Prospects are for further increases in lamb imports in 1961, mostly from New Zealand and Australia.

Wool, Mohair Production Up

Wool production in 1960, shorn and pulled, totaled 300 million pounds, 2 percent above 1959 output. Mohair production was up 1 percent from a year earlier. Gains were due to increases in the number of sheep shorn and goats

Table 7.--Production, prices and income from wool, United States, 1954-60

Year	Shorn wool: Number sheep shorn 1/	Shorn wool: Weight per fleece	Shorn wool: Production	Shorn wool: Price per pound 2/	Shorn wool: Value	Pulled wool production
	1,000 head	Pounds	1,000 pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars	1,000 pounds
1954	27,692	8.52	235,807	53.2	125,538	43,500
1955	28,149	8.57	241,284	42.7	103,040	41,600
1956	28,469	8.51	242,177	44.3	107,233	40,500
1957	28,415	8.41	239,101	53.4	127,764	33,600
1958	29,403	8.29	243,713	36.4	88,632	30,400
1959	30,763	8.45	259,939	43.2	112,328	34,500
1960 3/	31,160	8.55	266,563	4/ 43.2	115,135	33,600

1/ Includes sheep shorn at commercial feeding yards.
2/ Average price received by farmers for the marketing season April through March.
3/ Preliminary.
4/ Computed from State average prices for wool sold April 1960 through January 1961.

Table 8.--Mohair: Production and value for 7 leading States, 1954-60 1/

Year	Number goats clipped 2/	Average clip per goat	Production of mohair	Price per pound 3/	Value
	1,000 head	Pounds	1,000 pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars
1954	2,618	5.6	14,578	72.4	10,549
1955	2,984	5.7	16,926	82.2	13,913
1956	3,151	5.8	18,201	84.4	15,359
1957	3,231	5.9	19,053	83.7	15,953
1958	3,417	6.1	20,825	72.2	15,026
1959	3,755	6.4	24,151	96.5	23,301
1960 4/	3,884	6.3	24,445	5/ 87.7	21,442

1/ States are Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Oregon and California. 2/ In States where goats are clipped twice a year the number clipped is the sum of goats and kids clipped in the spring and kids clipped in the fall. 3/ Average price received by farmers for the marketing season April through March. 4/ Preliminary. 5/ Computed from State average prices for mohair sold April 1960 through January 1961.

clipped. The value of shorn wool produced in 1960 was 2 percent higher than the value of 1959 output, but the value of mohair was below a year earlier because of lower prices (tables 7 and 8).

The increase in shorn wool production during the past 3 years was due to increases in the number of sheep shorn and heavier average fleece weights. The average weight per fleece in 1960 was 8.55 pounds compared with 8.45 pounds a year earlier and the record high of 8.57 pounds in 1955.

Wool and mohair production and value have also been revised for 1954-59, largely from an appraisal of data obtained by the 1959 Census of Agriculture. The revisions raised the preliminary estimates of shorn wool production slightly but lowered the original estimates of the mohair clip. (See box, page 3 for ordering revised data by States).

USDA Purchases of Pork, Lard and Lamb

On January 24, 1961 the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced intentions to purchase canned pork and gravy with Sec. 32 funds for domestic distribution to needy families. As of February 28, 31.9 million pounds had been purchased at a cost of $17.9 million. Pork and gravy purchased under this program is already being distributed.

A lard purchase program was announced February 3, 1961, to continue the availability of this product to needy families. The program will also be expanded so as to provide lard to school lunch programs. Purchases of lard on February 24 brought the total purchased since February 3 to 18.8 million pounds and the amount spent under Sec. 32 funds to $3.0 million.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced February 27, its intention to purchase frozen lamb carcasses. Purchases will be made with Sec. 32 funds and the lamb will be distributed domestically to eligible institutions. Interested persons may contact the Livestock Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. for additional information.

RETAIL MEAT OUTLOOK

If production expectations are realized, retail meat supplies per person will be almost as large this year as last and retail prices probably will average close to those of 1960. Retail pork prices above year-earlier levels during the first part of the year may be about offset by lower prices later. Beef prices will probably continue close to year-earlier prices.

In January, the Bureau of Labor Statistics index of retail meat prices in urban centers was 117.7 (1947-49=100), up 7 points from a year earlier. Most of the gain was accounted for in higher pork prices. January average retail prices for pork chops, sliced bacon and hams were 4.6 to 12.2 cents per pound above Janury 1960 (Table 9).

Table 9.--Average retail price of specified meat cuts, per pound, by months, 1958 to date

Year and Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.
Beef, Choice 1/												
Round steak												
1958	100.6	101.0	103.1	105.8	105.9	106.2	106.3	104.0	103.7	104.5	104.9	104.9
1959	106.7	107.1	107.2	107.7	107.7	108.1	108.9	107.0	107.8	106.5	107.0	106.4
1960	106.0	105.2	105.6	107.7	105.9	105.8	105.7	105.6	104.8	104.9	103.8	104.6
1961	105.6											
Rib roast												
1958	80.3	80.2	81.0	82.6	82.9	83.0	83.0	81.7	81.6	80.9	81.1	81.2
1959	82.5	82.4	82.1	82.9	83.1	82.9	83.5	82.5	83.0	82.9	82.6	82.3
1960	82.0	81.3	81.6	81.1	82.4	82.3	82.3	82.0	81.0	81.3	81.1	81.4
1961	83.4											
Chuck roast												
1958	59.1	61.1	64.1	65.7	64.8	65.5	65.1	62.7	62.4	62.5	62.6	63.4
1959	64.3	65.5	65.2	64.8	65.7	64.5	64.2	62.7	62.1	63.6	63.5	63.2
1960	62.7	62.6	62.6	64.0	63.0	61.9	60.6	60.8	59.9	59.3	60.1	61.4
1961	63.1											
Hamburger												
1958	47.8	49.0	50.3	53.1	54.0	54.6	54.8	53.7	53.8	54.3	54.4	54.7
1959	55.6	55.7	55.2	55.0	55.3	55.3	55.4	54.7	54.6	54.6	53.9	53.7
1960	53.2	52.5	52.7	53.2	52.8	52.6	52.9	52.2	51.7	51.6	51.3	51.9
1961	52.4											
Pork, Chops												
1958	87.9	88.6	89.5	91.2	91.3	96.0	96.9	94.6	93.5	92.3	90.7	89.1
1959	88.8	84.8	81.7	84.0	85.5	87.4	87.9	85.4	89.0	86.6	83.8	79.2
1960	78.4	78.2	80.8	84.1	82.3	86.0	89.6	89.8	90.1	91.1	90.2	88.9
1961	89.5											
Bacon, sliced												
1958	75.6	77.2	77.1	79.5	80.4	81.9	85.1	86.4	83.0	78.8	73.9	72.8
1959	72.1	69.4	67.4	68.4	68.8	68.6	68.4	66.6	65.9	63.1	60.7	58.4
1960	57.5	58.2	58.8	63.9	66.6	67.4	67.5	71.0	68.9	68.7	68.2	69.2
1961	69.7											
Hams, whole												
1958	66.3	66.5	68.4	68.6	67.9	69.1	69.2	68.9	66.3	65.8	66.4	67.7
1959	67.5	64.9	63.7	63.1	62.7	63.1	62.2	60.1	60.5	59.6	59.1	59.6
1960	58.6	58.2	58.8	58.1	61.3	61.4	61.5	61.6	60.4	61.0	61.2	63.1
1961	63.2											
Veal cutlet												
1958	125.1	129.3	131.2	131.8	133.0	133.9	133.8	134.2	135.0	135.1	135.3	137.9
1959	139.1	142.5	140.6	141.5	143.0	143.3	143.9	142.9	143.4	142.5	141.8	140.9
1960	141.9	143.1	144.0	143.1	143.1	143.2	141.1	140.1	140.9	140.6	137.9	140.1
1961	143.1											
Leg of lamb												
1958	76.1	78.0	77.5	78.1	77.0	77.6	77.9	76.8	77.1	77.4	77.6	77.3
1959	75.5	73.9	73.7	75.2	76.5	77.4	76.8	74.9	74.8	74.7	74.4	73.9
1960	73.3	72.5	73.7	75.0	76.2	77.1	75.1	73.5	73.3	73.1	72.8	71.6
1961	72.4											

1/ Except hamburger, which has no grade designation.

Compiled from data of the Bureau of Labor Statistics

The relative stability in retail beef prices during 1960 will probably continue throughout the year. The composite retail price of Choice beef as computed by the Agricultural Marketing Service has fluctuated within a range of 3 cents per pound since the fall of 1959. Liberal quantities of top grade beef will contribute to this stability during the next few months.

The average retail price of veal cutlets in January was 143 cents per pound, up slightly from a year earlier. Calf slaughter in January was about 3 percent above a year before. Veal cutlets will probably continue a relatively high-priced meat item during 1961 as calf slaughter will probably be close to or only a little larger than last year. Because the dairy cow herd is smaller, the number of dairy calves born will probably be lower. In recent years a relatively large number of those born have been slaughtered as calves rather than as vealers, and this will likely be the case this year.

The prospective pattern of pork production points to relatively stable retail pork prices for the next few months, followed by a rather weak seasonal rise next summer, when retail prices will probably be close to a year earlier. They are expected to drop moderately below last fall's prices next fall.

OUTLOOK FOR SAUSAGE MEAT

Sausage products under Federal inspection totaled 2,425 million pounds in 1960, about 5 percent above 1959. Production in January on a weekly basis this year was about equal to January 1960 and is expected to remain close to year-ago levels during the next few months. Fresh finished sausage production was about 14 percent lower than in January of last year while production of the other major kinds of sausage was slightly higher than in January 1960.

Approximately 11 percent more cattle were slaughtered under Federal inspection in 1960 than in 1959. Cow slaughter, which provides the bulk of processing beef, was about 16 percent higher than a year earlier. Cattle slaughter under Federal inspection in January was 4 percent above a year earlier but in February was close to the same weeks a year ago. Hog slaughter will continue below 1960 rates through the first half of this year.

Meat imports, which are used largely for processing, will probably be somewhat smaller this year than last. Domestic production of the kinds of meat used in sausage is expected to be up slightly but sausage makers will continue to import considerable quantities of boneless meats.

There were 441.7 million pounds of meat in storage on February 1, 1961 155.4 million pounds less than on February 1, 1960 and 139.6 million pounds below the average beginning February stocks for 1956-60. February 1 stocks this year were 18.6 million pounds above those on January 1. Hence, supplies of meat available from cold storage for sausage production is somewhat less than last year and less than the average supplies that have been available in recent years.

Slaughter rates for grass cattle about the same as a year earlier, lower slaughter for hogs, reduced imports of meat and smaller storage supplies will tend to maintain sausage production about equal to 1960 output levels in the weeks ahead.

Table 10.--Cattle and hog slaughter, meat imports and stocks, and sausage production, by quarters 1959 to date

Period	Federally inspected slaughter								
	Cattle						Hogs		
	Total			Cows					
	1961	1960	1959	1961	1960	1959	1961	1960	1959
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Jan.-Mar.	1/4,725	4,578	3,995	1/1,050	978	928	1/16,550	18,474	17,304
Apr.-June	2/4,850	4,709	4,318	2/1,100	1,005	880	2/15,500	16,140	15,523
July-Sept.		5,161	4,546		1,172	943		14,672	15,929
Oct.-Dec.		4,946	4,600		1,286	1,085		16,867	19,952
Year		19,394	17,459		4,441	3,836		66,153	68,708

Period	Imports all meat 3/			Meat stocks in cold storage beginning of quarter 4/			Sausage production 5/		
	1961	1960	1959	1961	1960	1959	1961	1960	1959
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Jan.-Mar.	1/160	168	206	423	544	462	1/600	619	546
Apr.-June		190	274		598	602		621	599
July-Sept.		232	277		591	582		603	602
Oct.-Dec.		144	197		403	408		582	572
Year		734	954					2,425	2,319

1/ Partly estimated.
2/ Forecast.
3/ Total red meat imports, product weight.
4/ Includes beef, veal, pork, lamb, mutton and canned meats in public cold storage.
5/ Federally inspected production of all sausage, including loaf, head cheese, jellied products and the following canned items: Luncheon meat, viennas, franks and weiners in brine, deviled ham, other potted or deviled meat food products, bulk sausage and sausage in oil.

RANK OF STATES IN LIVESTOCK NUMBERS

Tables 11 and 12 show the relative importance of each State in specified classes of livestock on farms January 1, 1961, and the number of pigs saved in 1960. Although these are indicative of the State's importance in the various phases of livestock production, rankings can vary considerably from year to year because of local conditions. Drought in several of the Western States, for example, probably reduced the number of cattle and sheep on hand on the inventory date. Conversely, good wheat pastures in some of the Plains States probably added to inventories. The next issue of the Situation will carry rankings based on the liveweight of cattle, sheep and hogs produced on farms.

Texas, Wisconsin and Iowa remain unchallenged in their respective fields. With the exception of Texas, Oklahoma and California the leading States in cattle numbers and pigs saved are generally in the Corn Belt. New York and Pennsylvania rank high in the number of milk cows on hand. The top 10 States in sheep and lamb inventories are west of the Mississippi River. Georgia, in tenth place, is the leading Southern State in pigs saved.

Compared with a year earlier, the ranking of the 6 leading States in cattle and calf numbers was unchanged, but Illinois dropped from seventh place to ninth as Missouri and Minnesota moved up. Illinois also declined in relative importance in beef cattle on farms. The ranking of the leading States in sheep numbers and pigs saved was relatively unchanged.

1955-60 Revisions Change Rankings Slightly

The revisions in January 1 inventories and pig crops for 1955-60 did not alter the relative importance of States greatly as the changes were generally the same direction among States. Major changes from previously published rankings in cattle and calf numbers include dropping Florida from 18 to 25, lowering Alabama from 21 to 24 and raising Tennessee from 25 to 20.

The greatest changes in rank in cattle numbers since 1955 occurred in Kentucky, Michigan and Arkansas (See cover chart for regional changes). Kentucky's ranking in total cattle rose from 21 to 16 in the 6-year period and matched a similar increase in rank for beef cattle. The other two States declined in relative importance. Florida declined from 13 to 18 in beef cattle but Tennessee rose from 28 to 21.

In 1955 Ohio ranked seventh in sheep numbers on hand; in 1961, eleventh. South Dakota, Kentucky, Kansas and Oklahoma rankings increased noticeably in 1961 over 1955.

The top 10 States in the number of pigs saved in 1960 were the same States in 1955. Of the States producing over a million pigs in 1960 only Alabama showed much change in rank, declining from twelfth place to sixteenth.

Table 11.--Rank of States in number of cattle and calves on farms, January 1, 1961

Rank	All cattle and calves		Beef cattle and calves (cattle not for milk)			
			Total		Beef cows 2 years and over	
	State	Number	State	Number	State	Number
		1,000 head		1,000 head		1,000 head
1	Texas	9,379	Texas	8,423	Texas	4,374
2	Iowa	6,460	Iowa	5,036	Nebraska	1,519
3	Nebraska	5,175	Nebraska	4,647	Oklahoma	1,490
4	Kansas	4,473	Kansas	3,887	South Dakota	1,288
5	Wisconsin	4,296	Oklahoma	3,074	Kansas	1,245
6	California	4,203	Missouri	3,004	Missouri	1,169
7	Missouri	4,099	South Dakota	2,914	Montana	1,116
8	Minnesota	4,054	Illinois	2,897	Iowa	1,008
9	Illinois	3,901	California	2,788	California	851
10	Oklahoma	3,513	Colorado	2,014	Louisiana	834
11	South Dakota	3,327	Montana	2,008	Mississippi	810
12	Ohio	2,272	Minnesota	1,775	Colorado	784
13	Colorado	2,240	North Dakota	1,491	Florida	699
14	New York	2,152	Mississippi	1,463	Illinois	681
15	Montana	2,133	Louisiana	1,396	North Dakota	680
16	Kentucky	2,115	Indiana	1,381	Alabama	669
17	Mississippi	2,107	Kentucky	1,276	New Mexico	631
18	Indiana	2,103	Florida	1,252	Arkansas	574
19	Pennsylvania	1,951	Alabama	1,234	Kentucky	556
20	North Dakota	1,916	Oregon	1,141	Wyoming	556
21	Tennessee	1,914	Tennessee	1,133	Oregon	555
22	Louisiana	1,818	Ohio	1,115	Tennessee	526
23	Michigan	1,701	New Mexico	1,106	Georgia	508
24	Alabama	1,656	Georgia	1,073	Idaho	385
25	Florida	1,596	Wyoming	1,066	Virginia	384
26	Georgia	1,438	Arkansas	1,037	Minnesota	352
27	Oregon	1,435	Idaho	1,009	Indiana	350
28	Virginia	1,408	Arizona	930	Arizona	321
29	Idaho	1,401	Virginia	818	Washington	289
30	Arkansas	1,388	Washington	751	Ohio	268
31	New Mexico	1,174	Michigan	574	Nevada	265
32	Washington	1,174	Utah	553	Utah	262
33	Wyoming	1,116	Wisconsin	523	North Carolina	200
34	Arizona	1,014	Nevada	483	South Carolina	177
35	North Carolina	898	Pennsylvania	428	West Virginia	161
36	Utah	726	North Carolina	418	Wisconsin	123
37	South Carolina	542	South Carolina	356	Michigan	113
38	West Virginia	540	West Virginia	333	Pennsylvania	94
39	Nevada	516	Maryland	157	Maryland	49
40	Maryland	508	New York	138	New York	40
41	Vermont	431	Maine	29	Maine	9
42	Maine	200	Vermont	17	Delaware	4
43	New Jersey	198	New Jersey	14	New Jersey	4
44	Connecticut	153	Connecticut	11	Connecticut	3
45	Massachusetts	153	Massachusetts	11	Massachusetts	3
46	New Hampshire	99	Delaware	10	Vermont	3
47	Delaware	53	New Hampshire	8	New Hampshire	2
48	Rhode Island	20	Rhode Island	1	Rhode Island	---
United States		97,139		67,203		26,984

Table 12.--Rank of States in number of milk cows and sheep on farms, January 1, 1961 and pigs saved 1960.

Rank	Milk cows 2 years and over		All sheep and lambs		Number of pigs saved 1/	
	State	Number	State	Number	State	Number
		1,000 head		1,000 head		1,000 head
1	Wisconsin	2,426	Texas	6,159	Iowa	18,963
2	Minnesota	1,407	Wyoming	2,299	Illinois	11,422
3	New York	1,393	California	2,052	Indiana	7,748
4	Pennsylvania	988	Colorado	1,974	Missouri	6,241
5	Iowa	934	South Dakota	1,795	Minnesota	6,124
6	California	899	Montana	1,750	Ohio	4,569
7	Ohio	757	Iowa	1,640	Nebraska	3,881
8	Missouri	709	Utah	1,275	Wisconsin	3,694
9	Michigan	694	New Mexico	1,181	South Dakota	2,394
10	Illinois	616	Idaho	1,150	Georgia	2,353
11	Texas	610	Ohio	1,071	Kentucky	2,244
12	Kentucky	555	Minnesota	1,051	Tennessee	2,058
13	Tennessee	521	Oregon	942	North Carolina	1,986
14	Indiana	473	Kansas	799	Kansas	1,770
15	Mississippi	404	Nebraska	795	Texas	1,488
16	Virginia	382	Missouri	742	Alabama	1,465
17	Kansas	370	North Dakota	732	Michigan	1,255
18	Nebraska	347	Illinois	717	Virginia	993
19	North Carolina	299	Indiana	522	Pennsylvania	822
20	Vermont	288	Arizona	496	Mississippi	770
21	North Dakota	287	Kentucky	492	South Carolina	690
22	Oklahoma	275	Michigan	388	Arkansas	645
23	Louisiana	274	Washington	339	Oklahoma	618
24	South Dakota	273	Nevada	331	North Dakota	581
25	Alabama	262	Oklahoma	308	Florida	537
26	Washington	261	Virginia	306	California	457
27	Georgia	233	West Virginia	272	Louisiana	335
28	Maryland	232	Wisconsin	271	Colorado	292
29	Arkansas	229	Pennsylvania	240	Maryland	282
30	Idaho	221	Tennessee	211	Oregon	268
31	Florida	213	New York	160	Washington	228
32	Oregon	177	Louisiana	102	Montana	221
33	West Virginia	141	Mississippi	62	Idaho	219
34	New Jersey	139	North Carolina	54	New York	206
35	Colorado	135	Arkansas	50	Massachusetts	141
36	South Carolina	120	Maine	36	West Virginia	141
37	Utah	107	Maryland	35	New Jersey	133
38	Maine	106	Alabama	31	Utah	96
39	Massachusetts	102	Georgia	21	New Mexico	76
40	Connecticut	99	New Jersey	17	Delaware	53
41	Montana	82	Massachusetts	12	Wyoming	41
42	New Hampshire	58	South Carolina	11	Arizona	36
43	Arizona	53	Vermont	11	Maine	32
44	New Mexico	45	Florida	8	Connecticut	25
45	Wyoming	33	New Hampshire	8	New Hampshire	18
46	Delaware	29	Connecticut	7	Vermont	16
47	Nevada	18	Delaware	5	Nevada	15
48	Rhode Island	15	Rhode Island	2	Rhode Island	12
United States		19,291		32,932		88,654

1/ Total pigs saved from spring and fall pig crops of 1960

Supply and distribution of meat, by months, October 1960 to date

Meat and period	Commercially produced: Supply: Production	Supply: Beginning stocks	Supply: Imports	Distribution: Exports and shipments	Distribution: Ending stocks	Distribution: Military	Distribution: Civilian consumption: Total	Civilian consumption: Per person 1/	Total 2/: Production	Total 2/: Civilian consumption: Total	Civilian consumption: Per person
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
Beef:											
1960											
October	1,259	162	53	5	172	27	1,270	7.1	---	---	---
November	1,188	172	39	5	169	25	1,200	6.7	---	---	---
December	1,146	169	47	5	170	25	1,162	6.5	---	---	---
4th quarter	3,593	162	139	15	170	77	3,632	20.3	---	---	3/ 21
Year	14,377	202	760	55	170	343	14,731	83.1	14,700		85
1961											
January	1,234	170			155	27					
February											
March											
1st quarter											
Veal:											
1960											
October	98	9	3	4/	11	2	97	.5	---	---	---
November	91	11	2	4/	13	2	89	.5	---	---	---
December	79	13	1	4/	14	3	76	.4	---	---	---
4th quarter	268	9	6	4/	14	7	262	1.5	---	---	3/ 1.6
Year	1,023	10	15	2	14	25	1,007	5.7	1,100		6.1
1961											
January	81	14			13	4/					
February											
March											
1st quarter											
Lamb and mutton:											
1960											
October	70	13	2	4/	12	1	72	.4	---	---	---
November	63	12	1	1	12	4/	63	.4	---	---	---
December	61	12	4	4/	12	4/	65	.4	---	---	---
4th quarter	194	13	7	1	12	1	200	1.1	---	---	3/ 1.2
Year	753	15	50	2	12	4	800	4.5	760		4.6
1961											
January	72	12			12	4/					
February											
March											
1st quarter											
Pork:											
1960											
October	884	158	15	11	144	15	887	5.0	---	---	---
November	956	144	15	12	154	13	936	5.2	---	---	---
December	957	154	14	12	170	12	931	5.2	---	---	---
4th quarter	2,797	158	44	35	170	40	2,754	15.4	---	---	3/ 17
Year	10,856	264	185	135	170	183	10,817	61.0	11,700		66
1961											
January	946	170			200	14					
February											
March											
1st quarter											
All meat:											
1960											
October	2,311	342	73	16	339	45	2,326	13.1	---	---	---
November	2,298	339	57	18	348	40	2,288	12.8	---	---	---
December	2,243	348	66	17	366	40	2,234	12.5	---	---	---
4th quarter	6,852	342	196	51	366	125	6,848	38.3	---	---	3/ 41
Year	26,969	491	1,010	194	366	555	27,355	154.3	28,260		161.7
1961											
January	2,333	366			380	41					
February											
March											
1st quarter											

1/ Derived from estimates by months of population eating out of civilian food supplies, unadjusted for undernumeration.
2/ Includes production and consumption from farm slaughter.
3/ Estimated.
4/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	Unit	1960 Year average or total	1960 February	1960 December	1961 January	1961 February
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per					
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	27.82	28.47	27.97	28.79	
Choice	do.	26.24	26.69	26.86	27.42	
Good	do.	24.80	25.10	25.42	25.59	
Standard	do.	22.07	22.17	23.16	23.07	
Commercial	do.	21.79	21.22	23.63	22.89	
Utility	do.	19.82	18.87	21.10	20.24	
All grades	do.	25.93	26.37	26.61	27.02	
Omaha, all grades	do.	24.27	24.39	24.71	25.09	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	24.63	25.25	25.34	25.78	
Cows, Chicago						
Commercial	do.	16.21	15.95	15.48	16.04	16.30
Utility	do.	15.68	15.48	14.98	15.70	16.14
Cutter	do.	15.00	15.05	13.93	14.89	15.42
Canner	do.	13.28	13.60	12.16	13.16	14.04
Vealers, Choice, Chicago	do.	28.07	30.95	24.50	25.20	28.85
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City 1/	do.	22.93	23.80	23.61	24.29	
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	2/20.50	20.70	20.30	20.80	20.70
Cows	do.	2/14.50	14.80	13.80	14.30	14.80
Steers and heifers	do.	2/22.90	23.40	23.40	23.80	23.20
Calves	do.	2/23.00	24.70	22.50	23.50	23.90
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts, U. S. No. 1, 2 & 3, Chicago						
180-200 pounds	do.	16.38	13.53	18.07	17.83	18.34
200-220 pounds	do.	16.65	13.95	18.21	18.03	18.54
220-240 pounds	do.	16.51	13.86	17.80	17.78	18.41
240-270 pounds	do.	16.21	13.61	17.13	17.31	18.13
All weights	do.	16.05	13.53	17.49	17.43	
Barrows and gilts, 8 markets 3/	do.	15.96	13.56	17.27	17.33	
Sows, Chicago	do.	13.43	11.36	13.13	14.09	
Price received by farmers	do.	2/15.40	13.00	16.20	16.50	17.60
Hog-corn price ratio 4/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts		14.4	12.2	17.2	15.9	
Price received by farmers, all hogs		15.3	13.1	17.8	17.1	17.6
Sheep and lambs	Dollars per					
Sheep	100 pounds					
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	5.79	7.25	5.68	5.75	6.51
Price received by farmers	do.	2/ 5.46	5.96	5.29	5.53	5.82
Lamb						
Slaughter, Choice, Chicago	do.	20.06	21.05	17.26	17.20	17.62
Feeder, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	18.26	19.18	15.78	16.59	16.96
Price received by farmers	do.	2/18.10	18.60	16.00	16.50	16.80
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		296	287	296	304	309
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	44.20	45.18	44.67	45.36	45.25
Lamb carcass, Choice, 45-55 pounds	do.	43.16	40.78	39.23	38.86	38.84
Composite hog products:						
Including lard						
71.90 pounds fresh	Dollars	18.37	15.73	19.77	19.69	20.29
Average per 100 pounds	do.	25.55	21.88	27.50	27.39	28.22
71.01 pounds fresh and cured	do.	21.84	19.25	23.34	22.97	23.64
Average per 100 pounds	do.	30.76	27.11	32.87	32.35	33.29
Excluding lard						
55.99 pounds fresh and cured	do.	19.79	17.48	21.12	20.78	21.18
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.35	31.22	37.72	37.11	37.83
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	80.7	81.0	80.2		
Pork, retail cuts	do.	56.6	51.9	59.0		
Lamb, Choice grade	do.	69.7	69.2	69.9		
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1947-49=100)		95.9	91.7	96.4	97.5	
Retail (1947-49=100) 5/		114.5	110.4	116.5	117.7	

1/ Average all weights and grades.
2/ Simple average.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Includes beef and veal, pork, leg of lamb and other meats.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	Unit	1960 Year average or total	1960 February	1960 December	1961 January	1961 February
Meat animal marketings						
Index number (1947-49=100)		133	122	129		
Stocker and feeder shipments to 9 Corn Belt States	1,000					
Cattle and calves	head	6,067	270	541	476	
Sheep and lambs	do.	3,491	160	184	177	
Slaughter under Federal inspection						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	do.	19,394	1,437	1,576	1,632	
Steers	do.	10,557	806	786	868	
Heifers	do.	4,124	310	372	370	
Cows	do.	4,441	306	399	372	
Bulls and stags	do.	273	14	19	21	
Calves	do.	5,259	389	451	427	
Sheep and lambs	do.	14,036	1,076	1,114	1,300	
Hogs	do.	66,153	5,841	5,753	5,744	
Percentage sows	Percent	8	6	8	6	
Average live weight per head						
Cattle	Pounds	1,032	1,056	1,045	1,060	
Calves	do.	210	199	191	206	
Sheep and lambs	do.	99	104	101	103	
Hogs	do.	239	232	243	241	
Average production						
Beef, per head	do.	592	606	592	606	
Veal, per head	do.	119	115	107	115	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	48	51	49	50	
Pork, per head	do.	139	135	142	140	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	58	58	58	58	
Lard, per head	do.	32	30	32	32	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	14	13	13	13	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	11,442	868	929	986	
Veal	do.	623	44	48	49	
Lamb and mutton	do.	667	54	54	65	
Pork	do.	9,149	788	816	804	
Lard	do.	2,127	176	184	183	
Commercial slaughter 1/						
Number slaughtered	1,000					
Cattle	head	25,148	1,858	2,010	2,116	
Calves	do.	8,224	611	688	666	
Sheep and lambs	do.	15,886	1,195	1,265	1,454	
Hogs	do.	78,955	7,008	6,790	6,793	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	14,337	1,086	1,146	1,234	
Veal	do.	1,023	72	79	81	
Lamb and mutton	do.	753	60	61	72	
Pork	do.	10,856	940	957	946	
Lard	do.	2,416	203	208	206	
Cold storage stocks first of month						
Beef	do.	---	195	169	170	155
Veal	do.	---	9	13	14	13
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	14	12	12	12
Pork	do.	---	312	154	170	200
Total meat and meat products 2/	do.	---	597	410	423	442

1/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.

2/ Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the four meats listed.

LIST OF TABLES

STANDARD SUMMARY TABLES

The next issue of the _Livestock and Meat Situation_ is scheduled for release on May 10, 1961

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